For Immediate Release
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CMA HOSTS CONFERENCE ON THE PORTRAYAL OF MINORITIES IN THE VISUAL ARTS

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) will host a community conference, **Visions of Race**, on Saturday, February 3, 2001, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Gartner Auditorium that will explore representations of African-Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanic-Americans in popular culture. Noted art historians, artists, and community representatives will address the role of stereotypes in visual art and their impact on American values and perceptions. The event is *free* to the public, but registration is required at the CMA ticket center or by calling **1-888-CMA-0033** or (216) 421-7350. A $2 ticket handling fee applies to phone orders.

The conference focuses on the importance of the visual arts in forming perceptions of racial and ethnic groups in America. Stereotypes of people of color appear in many forms of popular culture and the fine arts. Cleveland's Chief Wahoo, the Aunt Jemima advertising image, and the taco-eating Chihuahua are examples of depictions of African-Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanic-Americans which have become representative of these ethnic groups.

Featured speakers at the conference are:

- Robin G.D. Kelly, Professor of History and Africana Studies, New York University
- Richard West, Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- Ramon A. Gutierrez, Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego
- Reverend Marvin McMickle, Pastor, Antioch Baptist Church, Cleveland
- Faith Ringgold, artist, California
- Michael D. Harris, Professor, African and African-American Art, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Fred Wilson, artist, New York

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Panelists are:

- Carol Spindel, Professor, Department of English, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana
- Juanita Helpfree, Native American activist, Cleveland
- Pablo Mitchell, Professor, Department of History, Oberlin College
- Johnny Coleman, Professor, Department of Art and Art History, Oberlin College
- Sandra R. Schwartz, Director, The National Conference for Community and Justice

Moderators:

- Adrienne L. Jones, CMA Trustee and Co-Chair of CMA's African-American Task Force; Conference Co-Chair
- Sharon Patton, Director, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College; Conference Co-Chair

The morning of the conference attendees may check in and have coffee beginning at 8:15 a.m.

Visions of Race is presented by CMA with additional support from The National Conference for Community and Justice.

For more information on the CMA and its events, call **1-888-CMA-0033** or visit **www.clevelandart.org**.

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